

# The Punta Gorda Herald

PUNTA GORDA — In Tropical Southwest Florida, a Seaport on the Famous Charlotte Harbor — a Town that is Known for its Natural Attractions and the Hospitality of a Cosmopolitan Citizenship

VOLUME XXIII—NUMBER 36

PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1915

5c. A COPY; \$1.50 A YEAR

## Transactions Board of County Commissioners

County Commissioners met in Arcadia 2nd day of August, 1915. Present, W. G. Welles, John Hagan and W. M. Whitten. W. G. Welles was chosen to act as chairman pro tem, in the absence of L. W. Whitehurst.

Minutes of the July meeting were read and after a few minor corrections were duly approved.

Notary bond of J. G. McNeal approved.

Moved and seconded and carried that the clerk of this board forward direct to A. B. Tucker, secretary of board of bond trustees all warrants drawn on the Punta Gorda special road and bridge district.

L. W. Whitehurst and D. L. Skipper arrived at 3 p. m. Mr. Whitehurst resumed the chair.

It was moved and carried that the tax collector be allowed two days of grace from and after the first Monday of each month in which to file his report of collections.

A road petition signed by J. H. Walker, M. L. Rich and others was submitted to the board and the same duly approved.

Pension claim of Zebiah Cassels approved.

The hour for the opening of bids for purchase of bonds of special road and bridge district No. 1 having arrived it was found that four companies had submitted bids, to-wit: Biscayne Construction Company, Heard National Bank, J. C. Mayer & Co. and Sidney Spitzer & Co. After due consideration on motion by W. G. Welles and seconded by D. L. Skipper the bid of J. C. Mayer & Co. was accepted.

Road petition of the citizens of Belmont was presented to the board asking for the establishing of a public road through township 40, range 26 east. Commissioner W. M. Whitten made the following motion which was duly seconded and carried: Moved, that the petition of Jennie Y. Keith, M. D., and thirty-two others, asking for a road across township 40 south, range 26 east, on the north line of sections 19-20-21-22-23-24, be granted with the understanding that it will be impossible at present to expend public funds to open said road, but that the road be established of a width of not less than forty feet, and that Edgar A. Stoll, Geo. W. Gatewood and L. G. Hoffman, be appointed to view and mark out said road and report to this board at the September term, 1915.

It was moved and carried that the road petition presented by Joshua Mizell and others be referred back to the petitioners with the suggestion that thirty feet is not sufficient width on which to make a road through the character of land over which this road would run.

The petition of E. L. Martin and seventy-seven others asking for a public highway was laid on the table for future consideration.

Bond of E. F. Bostick as bond trustee for the special road and bridge district No. 1 was approved.

Mrs. Nellie McClelland was placed on the pauper list at \$10 per month.

Blazers' report of J. L. Martin, Daniel Child and M. S. Roberts was presented to board and same duly approved. Notice mailed to Daniel Child, Murdock, Florida.

The hour having arrived for receiving and opening bids for the

construction of roads and bridge in special road and bridge district No. 1, the following companies filed bids, to-wit: W. H. Kendrick, Hamilton Johnson, Biscayne Construction Co., Southern Clay and Manufacturing Co., Edwards Construction Company, and Alabama Paving Company.

All bids for the construction of bridges in special road and bridge district No. 1, were rejected.

The Laten Bridge Co., York, Pa. agreed to draw detailed plans and specifications for certain bridges and place the same on file with the county commissioners together with a guaranteed cost for construction of same, at no cost or obligation and that said board shall not be precluded from accepting other plans.

All bids on hard-surfaced roads from roads No. 1 to No. 10 inclusive were rejected.

Clerk instructed to have published additional advertisements for bids on clearing and grubbing roads No. 15 to No. 22 inclusive, excepting road No. 16 in special road and bridge district No. 1.

Bid of Alabama Paving Co. as submitted in the bids on Roads No. 11-12-13-14 was accepted.

It was moved and carried that the clerk advertise for the purchase of three centerpede or caterpillar traction engines by the board of county commissioners, bids to be received until 2 o'clock p. m., Tuesday, September 7th, 1915, the board to reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

The clerk was instructed to advertise for bids for the purchase of one Ford car or automobile for road district No. 1, said bids to be received until 2:30 p. m. Sept. 7, 1915.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That Road No. 18, of special road and bridge district No. 1 be constructed on line reported by the engineer and described in the specifications of said road No. 18 A.

Offer of J. C. Mayer & Co. to furnish lithographed bonds and coupons for special road and bridge district No. 1 at a total cost not to exceed \$400 was accepted.

Justice of the peace bond of Lee A. Stillwell was approved.

Clerk was directed to advertise for bids on one carload of corrugated galvanized culvert material to be delivered at Wauchula, Fla.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the petition of John A. Welch and others asking that the bridge across Shell creek on Division No. 7 of Punta Gorda special road and bridge district be constructed on the line dividing 26 and 27, section 40 south, range 24 east, as per original petition for said road, be granted; and that the written consent of Robert W. Wilkins, contractor, for clearing and grubbing said road, that change be made and that said contractor will clear and grub said road without any extra compensation, is hereby approved; and that the written agreement of J. W. Addison, F. O. Wilkins, John A. Welch, Joel Bishop, E. T. Perkins and H. L. Blakeley, bondsmen of said contractor, that said change be made without in any way affecting their responsibility on the bond of such contractor, be and the same is accepted and approved.

Petition of the citizens of Polk (Continued on last page)

## COWPEAS WHEN SKILLFULLY CURED MAKE A FINE HAY

When Managed Right No Crop Makes Better

### THE GREATEST FOOD VALUE

When There is Still a Large Percentage of Bloom on the Vines The Leaves are Then Highly Nutritious

No crop makes better hay than cowpeas if they are managed right. Most farmers let them stand too long, and they become woody. C. K. McQuarrie, of Florida Extension Division, advises that cowpeas be cut when the first pods are in the snap stage and when there is still a large percentage of blooms. Experiments have shown that the greatest food value is to be had at this stage. If they stand longer, the stems become woody and the leaves drop. The leaves are the most highly nutritious part of the plant and they should be saved.

Do not run the mower when the peas are wet with dew or rain because they will not dry and will mould. Furthermore no peas should be cut after 1 o'clock in the afternoon, because the hay will not have time to cure enough to rake before night. Dew discolors the leaves, and the market likes bright pea-green hay. Rake in windrows before night and make into small cocks if possible. After two days three or four small cocks may be put into a large cock.

A great many farmers make the mistake of leaving their hay in the field until it dries, becomes bleached and even sun burned. Such hay is little better than wood. Cowpea hay can be safely put in barn or stack when no water can be rung from it by twisting a small bunch. If it is left too long the leaves will shatter, and the feeding value will be diminished.

Mr. Quarrie recommends that the hay be put in the barn or rick to undergo the sweat. Sweating is a curing process and it lends flavor and palatability to the hay. If the hay begins to sweat in the cock, it should not be disturbed for ten days or until it has passed out of the sweat.

Cowpeas are hard to cure, but once they are made into hay they are as good or better than alfalfa. They will pay for the extra trouble of cutting and housing. If no barn is available they may be put into a rick and covered with crabgrass or oat straw. They do not shed water well unless a cap is put on the rick.

## LIMESTONE IS NEEDED ON MOST FLORIDA SOILS

Acid soils are the cause of many unprofitable crops. Most Florida soils are acid and a great number of plants, especially the legumes, do not grow well on acid land. It therefore becomes necessary to correct the acidity. Some form of lime, commonly ground limestone, is used for this purpose.

The amount of limestone to apply will depend upon the acidity of the soil. Soils which are only slightly acid will need from one to two tons to the acre, according to P. H. Rolfs, director of the University of Florida Experiment Station. If a great deal of acid is present, the amount required may be as much as eight to twelve tons. In some cases it will not be profitable to apply as much as the soil requires, but the farmer should put on as much as the in-

## RUSSIAN ARMIES ARE NOW HOLDING TEUTONS IN CHECK

Stopped the German Advance in Vilkomer District

### WIN IN BALTIC PROVINCE

Repell Attack on Riga by Land and by Sea, and Withstand Attack on Kovno — War Events in Brief.

London, Eng.—Teutonic pressure on the eastern war front continues heavy against the Russian positions all along the line with steady retirement of Grand Duke Nicholas' troops in most of the sectors.

Northeast of Warsaw and up to the Baltic provinces the Russians are making their most determined stand. Increasingly strong resistance is indicated in this territory where serious breaches would menace the new Russian lines of defense.

The Russians assert they have checked German advance guards in the Vilkomer district where the invaders are within fifty miles of the trunk line railroad to Petrograd.

At Kovno is declared that desperate attacks on the fortresses have been repulsed with heavy losses.

Although military operations in Russian Courland have hardly reached the decisive stage, the Germans who have been smashing their way toward Riga have been checked. Almost simultaneously German warships which attempted to seize the Gulf of Riga and attain a strategic position to assist the troops ashore, were dispersed and damaged.

The assemblage of German craft was the largest of the war thus far, with the exception of the allied squadron at the Dardanelles.

The British advance in the vicinity of Hooge, although not comparable with the tremendous actions in Poland, marked the most important engagement in which the British army has figured since the Battle of Festubert in May. The gain was small and has to be maintained against counterattacks.

The Balkan situation is chaotic. Dispatches from Saloniki say that the Austro-German plan to strike again at Serbia already has found expression in a concentration of Teutonic forces along the Serbian frontier. It is said 100,000 men have been massed near Orzova, Hungary, which may be the forerunner of the predicted campaign through Serbia for the relief of Turkey. Italy has not declared

war on Turkey, but Athens reports that Italian consuls are leaving the Ottoman empire, entrusting their affairs to American Colleagues. If this be true, it probably means that impending developments in the Balkans dictated the action of Italy.

It has been rumored frequently that Italy would send troops to assist France and England in the Gallipoli operations, but thus far such reports have not been borne out, and the porte and Rome maintain surface relations of nations at peace.

For Germany's reported peace overtures to Russia the British press finds only sarcasm. Virtually all papers reiterate editorially what officials have insisted so often, that there can be no peace until the allies have won. It is believed generally in England that Germany is willing to conclude peace as matters stand, but the burden of all written and spoken comment is that such a situation would be impossible, from the allies' standpoint.

Rome reports the capture of some Austrian trenches in Cavallo pass, in the Carnie region and a similar success in the Plava zone.

The allies are again attacking vigorously in the Dardanelles and are making substantial progress, according to news agencies' dispatches from Athens. The Russians report new successes against the Turks in the Caucasus, near the Euphrates river.

## Citizens Organize to Beautify Punta Gorda

The movement looking towards beautifying Punta Gorda and making it "The Tropical City" assumed the proportions of an organized effort, when on Monday evening, pursuant to call, members of the Board of Trade, Woman's Civic Improvement Association and of the Junior League met upstairs in the Sandlin & Newman building and took the initial steps for carrying out the plans that have heretofore been discussed.

A temporary organization was effected by the election of ex-Mayor B. H. Mobley as chairman and Col. C. A. Waltmire as secretary. At Mr. Mobley's request, ex-Governor Gilchrist stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss and decide upon a systematic and effective way to carry out the plans for beautifying the town and vicinity as contemplated in the proposed setting out along the streets and highways of palms and other ornamentals. The ex-governor mentioned the necessity for an organized effort if the desired end is to be accomplished.

Mrs. Marian A. McAdow, who has become famous as the "Ornamental Lady", through her contributions to the Florida Grower, was called on for an expression of her ideas. She is very much in sympathy with the proposed undertaking as was evidenced by her remarks in the course of which she stressed the fact that if the effort is to be attended with any degree of success it is necessary to have some one regularly employed to look after the ornamentals after they have been set out. As illustrating her faith in the possibility of accomplishing what it is proposed to undertake, Mrs. McAdow referred to what she has done in beautifying her home place on the waterfront of this city.

An enthusiast upon subjects of this kind who is qualified to speak authoritatively is Dr. Geo. S. Stone and when called upon he

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spoke at length, mentioning efforts that he has been making to get together a collection of plants and shrubs for the very purpose and saying that at this time he has ordered from various parts of the world seeds and plants to the number of thousands that are among the rarest and most beautiful specimens suited to purposes of this kind. He invited those in attendance upon the meeting to visit his gardens southwest of the city and see what he is doing. The doctor gave assurance of his willingness to lend his every effort towards making Punta Gorda the most beautiful town in Florida, and he said also that in his capacity as mayor of the city he proposed to make it the cleanest town in the state.

Mrs. F. J. Laubach, Mrs. F. M. Cooper, Mrs. H. M. Reid, Mrs. J. J. McCann, Schator F. M. Cooper, J. F. Gleason and others who were among those attending the meeting spoke briefly upon what it is planned to do and indicated a willingness to cooperate as far as possible towards carrying out the undertaking.

Senator Cooper proposed that a permanent organization be effected by the election of nine directors, six ladies and three men, and these to elect from their number a president, vice-president, a secretary and treasurer and a general manager. This was put in the form of a motion, which was duly seconded and carried.

Accordingly, Mrs. Marian A. McAdow, Mrs. J. H. Hancock, Mrs. Sadie B. Farrington, Mrs. F. M. Cooper, Mrs. A. P. Jordan, Miss Nell Linnquist, J. J. McCann, A. B. Tucker and Dr. Geo. S. Stone were elected directors.

Following then upon the adjournment of the joint meeting, the directors organized by electing Mrs. A. P. Jordan, president; Mrs. Sadie B. Farrington, vice-president; J. J. McCann, secretary and treasurer; Dr. Geo. S. Stone, general manager.

A name for the organization will be proposed at the next meeting which will be held at the call of the president and definite plans will be laid out for the work that is to be undertaken. Meantime, attention is being given the young palms and other ornamentals that are already growing along the streets.

Ex-Governor Gilchrist, ever ready to aid materially in any movement that he conscientiously believes to be for the good of the community, placed at the disposal of the organization six pounds of royal palm seed that he had bought with the very idea in view that is now to be worked out.

There is no doubt but that Punta Gorda, situated as it is and with the climatic conditions that prevail here, can by a systematic effort such as is proposed, be made one of the prettiest places in the whole country. Every encouragement should be given those taking the lead in this work and ere many years this will be in reality "The Tropical City."

The concert given at the Presbyterian church, July 30th, consisted of one of the best programs ever given in our little city. Each number was rendered in a classical manner and was thoroughly enjoyed by those present. The ladies of the W. M. S. appreciate the cheerful response of the performers.